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Chapter No. <u>28</u> 18/HR13/A734 CST / END

HOUSE BILL NO. 1578

Originated in House

Clerk

HOUSE BILL NO. 1578

AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FROM SPECIAL FUNDS IN THE STATE TREASURY FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEFRAYING THE EXPENSES OF THE VETERANS' HOME PURCHASE BOARD AND MAKING NEW HOME LOANS AS AUTHORIZED BY LAW FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2019.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

SECTION 1. The following sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the State Treasury to the credit of the Veterans' Home Purchase Board's revolving fund, for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the Veterans' Home Purchase Board and making new home loans as authorized by law for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018, and ending June 30, 2019\$ 49,280,135.00.

SECTION 2. Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of Section 1, the following positions are authorized:

AUTHORIZED POSITIONS:

Permanent:	Full	Time	 17
	Part	Time	 0
Time-Limited:	Full	Time	0

With the funds herein appropriated, it shall be the agency's responsibility to make certain that funds required to be appropriated for "Personal Services" for Fiscal Year 2020 do not exceed Fiscal Year 2019 funds appropriated for that purpose, unless programs or positions are added to the agency's Fiscal Year 2019 budget by the Mississippi Legislature. Based on data provided by the Legislative Budget Office, the State Personnel Board shall determine and publish the projected annual cost to fully fund all appropriated positions in compliance with the provisions of this act. It shall be the responsibility of the agency head to ensure that no single personnel action increases this projected annual cost and/or the Fiscal Year 2019 appropriations for "Personal Services" when annualized, with the exception of escalated funds and the award of benchmarks. If, at the time the agency takes any action to change "Personal Services," the State Personnel Board determines that the agency has taken an action which would cause the agency to exceed this projected annual cost or the Fiscal Year 2019 "Personal Services" appropriated level, when annualized, then only those actions which reduce the projected annual cost and/or the appropriation requirement will be processed by the State Personnel Board until such time as the requirements of this provision are met.

Any transfers or escalations shall be made in accordance with the terms, conditions and procedures established by law or

allowable under the terms set forth within this act. The State

Personnel Board shall not escalate positions without written

approval from the Department of Finance and Administration. The

Department of Finance and Administration shall not provide written

approval to escalate any funds for salaries and/or positions

without proof of availability of new or additional funds above the appropriated level.

No general funds authorized to be expended herein shall be used to replace federal funds and/or other special funds which are being used for salaries authorized under the provisions of this act and which are withdrawn and no longer available.

None of the funds herein appropriated shall be used in violation of Internal Revenue Service's Publication 15-A relating to the reporting of income paid to contract employees, as interpreted by the Office of the State Auditor.

SECTION 3. It is the intention of the Legislature that the Veterans' Home Purchase Board shall maintain complete accounting and personnel records related to the expenditure of all funds appropriated under this act and that such records shall be in the same format and level of detail as maintained for Fiscal Year 2018. It is further the intention of the Legislature that the agency's budget request for Fiscal Year 2020 shall be submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee in a format and level of detail comparable to the format and level of detail provided during the Fiscal Year 2019 budget request process.

whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price, quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are made without competitive bids.

SECTION 5. It is the intention of the Legislature that the funds herein appropriated shall be expended in compliance with Section 27-104-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, that no state agency shall incur obligations or indebtedness in excess of their appropriation and that the responsible officers, either personally or upon their official bonds, shall be held responsible for actions contrary to this provision.

SECTION 6. It is the intention of the Legislature that the Veterans' Home Purchase Board shall have the authority to charge and collect payment from the State Veterans Affairs Board for the cost of rent and utilities of a shared building.

SECTION 7. The money herein appropriated shall be paid by the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.

SECTION 8. It is the intention of the Legislature that this agency shall have the authority to expend funds from any source that may become available to the agency in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Department of Finance and Administration in a manner consistent with the escalation of federal funds for the purpose of funding any increase in health insurance costs for Fiscal Year 2019, or for the purpose of funding additional fees, costs or assessments received by the agency from the Department of Information Technology Services or the Department of Finance and Administration for Fiscal Year 2019 that may be incurred by the agency as a result of legislation passed during the 2018 Regular Session of the Legislature and approved by the Governor. The agency is authorized to escalate other special funds for the limited purposes provided in this section in an amount not to exceed Sixty-two Thousand Five Hundred Sixty-four Dollars (\$62,564.00).

SECTION 9. It is the intention of the Legislature that the Veterans' Home Purchase Board is hereby authorized to escalate, budget and expend funds from any source, not to exceed Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000.00), for the purpose of making new home loans as authorized by law, in accordance with rules and regulations of the Department of Finance and Administration in a manner consistent with the escalation of federal funds.

SECTION 10. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after July 1, 2018.

PASSED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES February 13, 2018

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PASSED BY THE SENATE

March 13, 2018

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR

GOVERNOR

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